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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Date Submitted: November 23, 2004

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/798,645
Filing Date	03/12/2004
First Named Inventor	Shinichi SUGIMOTO
Group Art Unit	2832
Examiner Name	Michael A. Friedhofer
Attorney Docket Number	086142-0657

Sheet

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
MSB	A1	6,675,675	B1	Frank SAUER et al. (corres. to EP 1 181 172)	01/13/2004	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
MSB	A2	EP	1 181 172	A0	Petri AG (corres. to US 6,675,675)	02/27/2002		
MSB	A3	EP	1 153 808	A2	Toyoda Gosei Co., Ltd.	11/14/2001		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
MSB	A4	Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 2003, No. 9, 3 September 2003 & JP 2003-146221 (T S Tec KK), 21 May 2003.	
MSB	A5	Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 2003, No. 9, 3 September 2003 & JP 2003-146168 (T S Tec KK), 21 May 2003.	

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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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